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For action

Recommendation for approval of additional regular resources for 10 country programmes and the one-year extension of the current programme cycles of two country programmes

Summary

The estimated funding target and financial plan contained in the medium-term plan (MTP) for the period 1998-2001 (E/ICEF/1998/13 and Corr.1) was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1998 (E/ICEF/1998/6/Rev.1, decision 1998/22). Planning levels for regular resources (formerly general resources) for country programmes are established on the basis of the approved MTP, taking into account the latest projections of income and expenditure.

The regular resources planning levels for 2000 and the indicative levels for 2001-2004 have been computed using the modified regular resources allocation system described in document E/ICEF/1997/P/L.17 and Corr.1 and approved by the Executive Board at its 1997 annual session (E/ICEF/1997/12/Rev.1, decision 1997/18). As a result of the application of the modified system and the estimated global levels of regular resources available for programmes in 2000 and 2001, the level of regular resources planned for 10 countries, eight of whose programme cycles end in 2000, and two with programme cycles ending in 2001, is higher than the balance of approved regular resources available to these countries.

In addition, although the current programme cycles of two countries end in 2000, both of them have unexpended balances of regular resources sufficient to cover their regular resources planning levels for 2001.

* E/ICEF/2000/2.

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The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve:

(a) Allocations of additional regular resources in the total amount of $9,966,943 to fund the approved country programmes of eight countries (Cambodia, the Congo, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Madagascar, Rwanda and Somalia) for 2000, and two countries (Guinea and Senegal) for 2000 and 2001;

(b) A one-year extension of the current approved country programmes of cooperation for Egypt and Malaysia.

I. Introduction

1. The regular resources (formerly general resources) planning levels for eight countries whose programme cycles end in 2000, and two countries whose cycles end in 2001, are higher than the balances of approved regular resources as a result of the application of the modified system for allocation of regular resources and revised projections of global levels of regular resources available for allocation to country programmes in 2000 and 2001. The table below sets out the balance of approved regular resources available to those countries, the regular resources levels planned for each of the countries and the additional amount of regular resources for which approval is needed to reach the planning level.

Regular resources

(In United States dollars)

	Balance of approved RR (A)	*RR planning level (B)*		*Amount to be approved (B-A)*
Region country	*2000*	*2000*	*2001*	
Eastern and Southern Africa				
Madagascar	4 039 977	4 774 000	-	734 023
Rwanda	1 798 000	2 347 000	-	549 000
Somalia	3 156 128	4 325 000	-	1 168 872
Subtotal	**8 994 105**	**11 446 000**	**-**	**2 451 895**
West and Central Africa				
Congo	912 602	939 000	-	26 398
Guinea	2 517 000	2 609 000	2 609 000	2 701 000
Liberia	1 056 000	1 349 000	-	293 000
Senegal	1 624 000	1 870 000	1 922 000	2 168 000
Subtotal	**6 109 602**	**6 767 000**	**4 531 000**	**5 188 398**

Region country	Balance of approved RR (A)	RR planning level (B)		Amount to be approved (B-A)
	2000	2000	2001	
East Asia and the Pacific				
Cambodia	1 827 000	3 104 000	-	1 277 000
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	837 000	920 000	-	83 000
Subtotal	**2 664 000**	**4 024 000**	**-**	**1 360 000**
Middle East and North Africa				
Iraq	1 417 350	2 384 000	-	966 650
Total	**19 185 057**	**24 621 000**	**4 531 000**	**9 966 943**

RR = regular resources

II. Recommendations for additional regular resources

A. Eastern and Southern Africa

Madagascar

2. The country programme for Madagascar, covering the period 1996-2000 (E/ICEF/1995/P/L.12), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in March 1995 with an allocation of $15,900,000 from regular resources (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/9). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $734,023 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

3. Some $413,023 of the additional funds will be used for the health programme and will contribute to reducing the incidence of malaria, increasing immunization coverage and helping to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. The planning and social statistics programme will receive $321,000 to carry out the end-decade survey of the World Summit for Children goals and to support preparation of the new country programme.

Rwanda

4. The current short-duration country programme for Rwanda, covering the period 1998-2000 (E/ICEF/1997/P/L.20), was approved by the Executive Board at its third regular session in September 1997 with an allocation of $4,860,000 from regular resources (E/ICEF/1997/12/Rev.1, decision 1997/22). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $549,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

5. The objectives of the country programme are to address the special protection needs of children; provide basic services to children and other vulnerable groups; and advocate for and monitor implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women. These objectives are being pursued through programmes in health, nutrition, water and sanitation, and education. In support of achieving the country programme objectives, the additional

funds will be allocated among the programmes as follows: $90,000 for child protection; $36,500 for nutrition; $162,000 for water and sanitation; $50,000 for education; $36,500 for advocacy, monitoring and evaluation; and $174,000 for cross-sectoral costs.

Somalia

6. The current short-duration country programme for Somalia, covering the period 1999-2000 (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.24), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in September 1998 with an allocation of $5,859,000 from regular resources (E/ICEF/1998/6/Rev.1, decision 1998/15). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $1,168,872 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

7. In the volatile situation in Somalia, the country programme has been adapted to the specific needs and opportunities presented. In the zones in crisis, the priority is to ensure "safety nets" for the most vulnerable groups through improved emergency prevention, preparedness and a well-coordinated response. In the zones of recovery, the response is to improve the quality and sustainability of essential services for children and women. The zones of transition, which tend to be scattered pockets of relative peace and stability, require localized support, often with a mix of rehabilitation and emergency approaches. In these circumstances, the additional $1,168,872 will be allocated among the following programmes: (a) $268,841 to health, to help ensure access to and the utilization of a package of essential preventive, curative and promotive services among at least 60 per cent of the settled population; (b) $116,887 to nutrition, to improve care and feeding practices in order to address the underlying causes of malnutrition; (c) $233,774 to water and environmental sanitation, to help sustain past investments in water supply systems through the building of local capacity for system maintenance, improved management practices and the introduction of cost-sharing schemes to recover part of the recurrent expenses; (d) $233,774 to education, to help increase access to and the utilization, quality and sustainability of formal primary education through a community-based approach to the rehabilitation of the sector; and (e) $315,596 for the management of this complex country programme which, in the absence of a central Government, is implemented through partnerships with local or international non-governmental organizations, community organizations and nascent local administrative structures.

B. West and Central Africa

Congo

8. The current short-duration country programme for the Congo, covering the period 1999-2000 (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.25), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in September 1998 with an allocation of $1,690,000 from regular resources (decision 1998/15). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $26,398 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

9. The programme aims to support the country in its post-emergency phase of reconstruction and rehabilitation, and has as its key objectives the revitalization of the primary health care (PHC) system and the reactivation of basic education. In health, particular attention is being given to immunization. The education programme concentrates on getting primary schools operating again, promoting the education of girls and supporting peace education. The additional funds of $26,398 will support activities in both these sectors.

Guinea

10. The country programme for Guinea, covering the period 1997-2001 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.12/Add.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its third regular session in September 1996 with an allocation of $7,400,000 from regular resources (E/ICEF/1996/12/Rev.1, decision 1996/29). The increased planning levels for 2000 and 2001 will provide the programme with an additional $92,000 from regular resources in 2000 and a total of $2,609,000 from regular resources in 2001, for which approval is sought.

11. The objectives of the programme are to reduce infant, under-five and maternal mortality, and to improve access to information and education through the implementation of programmes in health and nutrition, basic education, water and sanitation, information and communication, and human development. The additional $92,000 from regular resources for 2000 will be allocated to projects in HIV/AIDS and youth health. The $2,609,000 for 2001 will be allocated among the programmes as follows: $891,000 to health and nutrition; $437,000 to water and sanitation; $390,000 to education; $254,000 to information and communication; $263,000 to human development; and $374,000 for cross-sectoral costs. These funds will be used to support achievement of the objectives contained in the approved country programme recommendation (CPR).

Liberia

12. The current short-duration country programme for Liberia, covering the period 1999-2000 (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.27), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in September 1998 with an allocation of $2,046,000 from regular resources (decision 1998/15). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $293,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

13. The objectives of the programme, as outlined in the CPR, are to revitalize basic social services, including PHC and basic education, in order to contribute to the reduction of infant, child and maternal mortality; facilitate the reintegration of war-affected children into social and community structures; and advocate for and promote the protection of the rights of Liberian women and children. The additional $293,000 will support the realization of those objectives, with an estimated allocation of $50,000 to health, $50,000 to education, $100,000 to communication and $93,000 for cross-sectoral costs.

Senegal

14. The country programme for Senegal, covering the period 1997-2001 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.14/Add.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its third regular session in September 1996 with an allocation of $5,080,000 from regular resources (decision 1996/29). The increased planning levels for 2000 and 2001 will provide the programme with an additional $246,000 from regular resources in 2000 and a total of $1,922,000 from regular resources in 2001, for which approval is sought.

15. The main goal of the country programme is to contribute to the survival, protection and development of children and women. The objectives to achieve this goal are to reduce infant, under-five and maternal mortality; reduce malnutrition rates; improve basic education; and provide access to safe water and proper sanitation. The additional $246,000 from regular resources for the year 2000 will be allocated among the health, education, and water and sanitation programmes. The $1,922,000 for 2001 will be allocated among the programmes as follows: $612,100 to health; $352,600 to water and sanitation; $260,400 to education; $171,200 to children in difficult circumstances; $132,300 to advocacy;

$270,600 to monitoring and evaluation; and $122,800 for cross-sectoral costs. These funds will be used to support the achievement of the objectives contained in the approved CPR.

C. East Asia and the Pacific

Cambodia

16. The country programme for Cambodia, covering the period 1996-2000 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.51), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in April 1996 with an allocation of $11,550,000 from regular resources (decision 1996/7). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $1,277,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

17. The goals of the country programme are to reduce infant, under-five and maternal mortality rates, as well as the rate of malnutrition, and to increase access to basic education, and safe water and adequate sanitation, through programmes in community action for social development (CASD), health, basic education, and advocacy, planning and programme support. It is proposed to allocate the additional funds among the programmes as follows: $510,000 to CASD, to continue its support to rights-based programming and integrated community-based approaches; $410,000 to health, to enable an acceleration of immunization and efforts to reduce maternal mortality; $260,000 to basic education, to assist in improving access, particularly for girls; and $97,000 to the high priority area of combating the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

18. The current short-duration country programme for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, covering the period 1999-2000 (E/ICEF/1998/P/L.30) was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in September 1998 with an allocation of $1,677,000 from regular resources (decision 1998/15). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $83,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

19. Three objectives were set for this country programme: (a) to restore children's and women's well-being to their pre-emergency levels by reducing child and maternal mortality, morbidity and malnutrition, and facilitating the psycho-social development of young children; (b) to promote the progressive implementation and monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, focusing primarily on improving of the situation of orphaned and destitute children; and (c) to build a basis for sustainable social development in selected demonstration areas using integrated and multisectoral activities. In recent years, the country has been experiencing reversals in child immunization coverage, which is down from 100 per cent in 1994 to 40 per cent in 1998. The additional $83,000 will be allocated to the health programme to assist in increasing immunization coverage through the procurement of vaccines and support to capacity-building among health professionals.

D. Middle East and North Africa

Iraq

20. The current short-duration country programme for Iraq, covering the period 1999-2000 E/ICEF/1998/P/L.32), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in September 1998 with an allocation of $2,943,000 from regular resources (decision

1998/15). The increased planning level for 2000 will provide the programme with an additional $966,650 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

21. The country programme, comprised of programmes in health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, child protection and development, advocacy and communication, and planning and social statistics, aims to accelerate achievement of the goals of the National Plan of Action. The additional funds will be allocated among the programmes as follows: $221,600 to health, to help support efforts to reduce infant, child and maternal mortality rates; $140,000 to nutrition, which will contribute to ensuring that a minimum of 75 per cent of children under five years of age are screened for malnutrition and at least 50 per cent of severely malnourished children receive rehabilitation services; $145,000 to water and sanitation, to assist in increasing access to safe water supplies and improving sanitation and hygiene; $212,700 to education, to help restore net primary school enrolment rates to pre-1991 levels, one of the main objectives of the programme; $154,850 to fund the recruitment of a communications officer, crucial for the advocacy aspects of the country programme; and $92,500 to child protection, advocacy and planning.

III. Recommendations for the extension of the current programme cycles

A. East Asia and the Pacific

Malaysia

22. The country programme for Malaysia, covering the period 1997-2000 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.28/Add.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its third regular session in September 1996 with an allocation of $3,000,000 from regular resources (decision 1996/29). At the end of 2000, it is expected that the programme will have an unexpended balance of $588,000 in regular resources. In order to utilize the unspent approved balance of regular resources and to provide adequate time for the preparation of a new programme of cooperation by the new UNICEF country team leadership, together with national authorities, it is proposed that the current programme be extended for one year, using the unspent balance of regular resources to implement the programme.

B. Middle East and North Africa

Egypt

23. The country programme for Egypt, covering the period 1995-2000 (E/ICEF/1994/P/L.14 and Corr.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in April 1994 with an allocation of $30,000,000 from regular resources (E/ICEF/1994/13/Rev.1, decision 1994/R.2/6). The United Nations funds and programmes working in Egypt will harmonize their cycles at the beginning of 2002. At the end of 2000, it is expected that the programme will have a sufficient unexpended balance of regular resources to cover the 2001 regular resources planning level of $3,028,000. Therefore, it is proposed that the current programme be extended for one year to allow it to harmonize its cycle with the other United Nations funds and programmes, and to use the unspent balance of regular resources to implement the programme.